

The Daily Charge

www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

Telling the MND-Baghdad Story

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007



(U.S. Army photo)

"One, two, three, four ..."

Spc. Charles Kindstrand, from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division sits with an Iraqi child and helps him count using candy. Kindstrand, a Lillington, N.C., native was on patrol gathering information from the residents in Karma, Iraq.

Soldiers working closer than ever with Iraqis

By Staff Sgt. Kason Fark
2-12 Cav.

BAGHDAD-As he sipped his cola, Capt. Darren Fowler, commander of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, thought long and hard about the day's events. His company had just completed a clearing operation as the supporting element in one of the hottest spots in western Baghdad.

Southern Ghazaliya was once home to some of the wealthiest Sunni Arabs in Iraq. However, after the bombing of the Golden Dome

Mosque in Samarra, it is now a battleground between Sunni residents who wish to stay and Shia Muslims from other parts of Baghdad who would like to see a Sunni-free capital.

Major Chasib, an Iraqi Army company commander, could not be happier.

His company has been receiving more support than ever from coalition forces to bring down the sectarian violence in their sector.

"What can I do for you?" Captain Fowler asked, anticipating an opportunity to further enable Chasib's combat power by providing

supplies or equipment.

"Nothing," the major smiled. "You are here and that is enough."

The two forces have combined to make an alliance they hope is powerful enough to quell the violence that has steadily infiltrated daily life in southern Ghazaliya.

As Co. D has witnessed, the 4th Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division is ready and willing to do its part in securing Ghazaliya for all of

See **Close** Page 3

'Cav Roundup' now available on iTunes

By Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma
1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq - What happens when the Multi-National Division - Baghdad daily radio show, 'Cav Roundup' meets Apple's iTunes? People are able to listen to the most up-to-date information on what's happening on the ground through the eyes of MND-B Soldiers through this new partnership.

The official homepage of the Army, www.army.mil, is always looking for fresh ways to tell the Army story and with Cav Roundup and 'iTunes' combo in hand, they struck gold.

Cav Roundup delivers daily news and operational updates every weekday from the Iraqi capital and is now posted on the Army homepage. Lt. Col. John Robinson with the Media Services Division, Soldiers Media Center, Office of the Chief of Army Public Affairs, said that as part of a push to get products seen by a larger audience they submitted the daily radio show along with other Army products to iTunes.

"My intent was to make more approved Army products, such as the Cav Roundup, available on social sites on the internet, such as iTunes," said Robinson the director of the Media Services Division in Washington



(Photo by Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs)
Pvt. Aaron Reyes, with HHC, DSTB, 1st Cav. Div., listens to the latest iTunes podcast of the 'Cav Roundup' Feb. 14. D.C.

The Cav Roundup is sent to iTunes as a podcast. A podcast is a media file, typically audio or video, that is distributed by subscription over the internet. The feeds can then be played back on mobile devices and personal computers.

"Doing this broadens our reach with quality Army products and it also makes more people aware of the kind of material they will find on the Army homepage," Robinson said. "It's important to [MND-B]

Soldiers and their families because we are entering and developing a new and innovative way to explain their mission to the American public, as well as our global audiences."

A broadcast noncommissioned officer and a co-producer of the daily radio show, Sgt. Scott Pittillo said that he thinks this is an awesome venture that will expand the audience of the show and consequently bring the story of the MND-B troopers to more ears, minds and hearts.




"Putting the Army's story out there will give the public a more rounded perspective on the war and the Soldiers who fight in it," added the 29-year-old native of Hendersonville, N.C.

A forward observer with Headquarters Company, Division Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Pvt. Aaron Reyes said that with the radio show on iTunes, Soldiers can make sure family members and friends can get more than the just the news they see on television.

"They can get a closer look at what were doing here and know that we're doing okay," Reyes, a native of Hillsboro, Ore., added.

Robinson said that although he doesn't have any insight on the number of people who download the daily radio show on iTunes, he can say that ever since he began placing more material on other social sites the audience on the Army homepage has grown.



Iraq 3-Day Weather Report			
	Today	Tomorrow	Saturday
High: 71 Low: 47	High: 65 Low: 47	High: 67 Low: 48	

Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Joseph F. Fil, Jr.
Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Scott Bleichwehl
Command Information Supervisor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen
NCOIC, Print Production: Sgt. Michael Garrett
Editor: Spc. Shea Butler
Staff Writers: Sgt. Nicole Kojetin, Spc. L.B. Edgar, Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma, Pfc. Ben Gable, Pfc. William Hatton
Contributing Writers: Staff Sgt. Kason Fark, Sgt. Marcus Butler, Spc.

Alexis Harrison
Contact the Daily Charge at VOIP 242-4093, DSN 318-847-2855 or e-mail david.j.larsen@mnd-b.army.mil.
The Daily Charge is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *Daily Charge* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division. All editorial content of the *Daily Charge* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office.



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Kason Fark 2-12 Cav.)

1st Lt. Rick Stenberg talks to Iraqi Army troops through an interpreter during security operations in Baghdad's Ghazaliya neighborhood.

Two uniforms one fight

Close
From Page 1

its residents, regardless of their religion.

Many Shia Muslims still reside in southern and middle Ghazaliya neighborhoods, where Sunni insurgents are trying to force them out of their homes.

Major Chasib is trying to establish peace between the warring factions, working with Iraqi security forces and the local elected officials in Ghazaliya.

Fowler's company is working on

another level with the Iraqi Army. An Iraqi Army officer, Lieutenant Mohammed, and his interpreter, Scorpion, are sleeping, eating, working, and riding along with 1st Lt. Rick Stenberg's platoon, in order to give the young Iraqi officer a chance to get familiar with American tactics, techniques, and procedures for counterinsurgency.

With their officers riding shotgun, Fowler said the Iraqi Army will be receiving well trained leadership that has school house and boots-on-the-ground training.

Baghdad in Brief

Security plan tempo intensifies for Iraqi, U.S. troops

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq - Multi-National Division - Baghdad Soldiers and Iraqi security forces increased their operational tempo in several areas of the Iraqi capital that have been previously identified by the Baghdad Operational Command Feb. 14.

"Intelligence-focused searches accompanied by clearing operations are being conducted by coalition and Iraqi security forces in multiple locations across Baghdad today," said MND-B spokesperson Lt. Col. Scott R. Bleichwehl. "We anticipate these operations will last several days."

Targeted raids, cordon and searches and clearing operations are designed to push extremist elements from Baghdad neighborhoods and deny safe-haven for those who have conducted terrorist acts against the civilian population.

Operations are also being carried out against cells that promote and conduct sectarian violence. Increased security patrols are also being conducted throughout the city.

"These operations are designed to help protect the population through the reduction of violence as part of the ongoing Baghdad Security Plan," said Bleichwehl.



Georgian troops are proud to work with coalition forces

By Spc. Alexis Harrison
2-1 Cav. Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE UNION 1, Iraq - A little more than two years ago, the 1st Infantry (Light) Battalion of the Georgian Army didn't exist. A decade before that, the army itself didn't even exist.

Now, the Georgians have joined thousands of other coalition force elements to take the job of manning checkpoints surrounding the heavily-fortified International Zone. Although they may be new to the game of war, the soldiers find unlikely similarities between themselves and the Iraqis.

The Georgians know first-hand what it is like to have their country tumble into a dismal state. In 1991, just a few years after the fall of the Soviet Union, Georgia declared its independence and began standing up its own army.

Now, the Georgians are trying to help Iraqis do the same for their country. They protect the heart of the capital where lawmakers are busy governing the unstable

country.

The battalion's chief of staff, Capt. Merabi Tabidze said it's an all too familiar feeling to him and his troops.

"We have a mission to keep Iraqis free just as we did more than 10 years ago," Tabidze said. "We are proud of this opportunity to help the coalition and the Iraqis."

Although the Georgian Army isn't large in comparison to the American force, they didn't hesitate when they were given the opportunity to prove their worth in a combat environment.

"We are one of the largest contributors to the coalition effort," said the battalion commander, Maj. Besik Jajanidze. "We are a very small country, but we wanted to help rebuild the walls of Iraq alongside American and other coalition forces to show our support."

Along one of the outer walls of the battalion's barracks the words, "Remember, you are Georgian" are painted in Georgian handwriting. One of the liaison officers, Georgian Air Force Lt. Col. Kakhaber Kharshiladze, said it's a reminder to all the soldiers living

and working in Iraq to remember the struggles their country had to overcome and to always take pride and be professional while serving as the "face of Georgia" in Iraq.

Last September, the battalion arrived in country and immediately began working with the 4th Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. The Georgian troops manned several checkpoints and entry points in the International Zone.

Today, they still man those checkpoints. However, the battalion's mission is almost complete. They only have six-month rotations into the country.

Like American troops, many of the Georgian fighters left behind family and friends to fulfill a duty they were once bound to, but in recent years has changed to a voluntary status.

For Cpl. George Chitanava it's his first time away from home. He'd only been out of school a few weeks when he made the decision to enlist.

"When I was young, all I wanted to do was make a difference in my country," he said. "Now I can help work with coalition forces to help make a difference here."

Chitanava is much like any young man. He enjoys competing in traditional sports like soccer and also Georgian favorites like wrestling.

Just because the Georgians are in Iraq doesn't mean they can't enjoy things like they did at home. Last November, they celebrated one of their holidays, King George's Day, with a feast of traditional home-cooked meals and several strength competitions like wrestling, armwrestling and even a pull-a-humvee-with-your-teeth demonstration in front of several coalition leaders including Col. Bryan Roberts, commander of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, and the brigade's top noncommissioned officer, Command Sgt. Maj. James Lee.

One of the Black Jack Brigade's units has been working very closely with the "Batoomi" Battalion from Georgia. The 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment has a very similar task in watching over the International Zone and assorted checkpoints.

"We like to think we are much like the 'cowboys' from Texas ... the Black Jack Brigade," said Kharshiladze.



(Photo by Spc. Alexis Harrison 2-1 Cav. Public Affairs)

Soldiers from the Georgian Army's 1st Infantry Battalion practice weapon skills on Forward Operating Base Union 1 in Baghdad, Jan. 31. The Georgian infantrymen and Air Force officers currently work alongside the Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, manning checkpoints and guarding the heavily-fortified International Zone in Iraqi capital.

Paratroopers search marketplace for insurgent activity

By Sgt. Marcus Butler
4-25 Inf. Public Affairs

KARMA, Iraq - Moving under the cover of darkness and the watchful eye of helicopters overhead, paratroopers loaded up in their vehicles on a mission to seek out sites containing improvised explosive device-making material in a market here.

Two platoons from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry



Spc. Jacob Heeren, a infantryman from Co. B, 3rd Bn., 509th Parachute Inf. Regt., waits so he can clear a shop in a market in Karma Iraq Feb. 9.

Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division and two Marine canine teams conducted simultaneous cordon and searches Feb. 9 of a market area in order to deny anti-Iraqi forces a construction, distribution and storage area for IEDs.

The two platoons moved towards different areas of the market and put "Operation Chicken" into motion.

"Each platoon received one canine team and moved to their respective search areas by different routes," said Capt. Eric Nylander, the Co. B commander.

After establishing blocking positions at each end of the market, the paratroopers dismounted and moved in to begin searching the area. With bolt cutters in hand, the paratroopers moved shop to shop breaking locks, clearing the area and moving on to the next shop.

With the exception of occasional echoes from shotgun blasts to breach some of the shops' doors and chatter from surprised Iraqis in their homes, the paratroopers moved stealthily through the mission. Once a room had been cleared, it was searched thoroughly by other paratroopers with a canine team.

Running from shadow to shadow, the paratroopers moved through the mission with smooth efficiency.

"The mission was very effective and



(Photos by Sgt. Marcus Butler 4-25 Inf. Public Affairs)

Spc. Eric Martinez, with Co. B, 3rd Bn., 509th Parachute Inf. Regt., prepares to breach a door of a shop with a shotgun during a raid of a market in Karma, Iraq Feb. 9.

successful," said 1st Lt. Caleb Curlin, a platoon leader for Co. B. "The paratroopers executed well during the mission and completed it three hours faster than anticipated."

Once the last shop was searched, the paratroopers collected all of the evidence from the raid and moved back to their base.

TELEVISION



	8:00p.m.	8:30p.m.	9:00p.m.	9:30p.m.	10:00p.m.	10:30p.m.	11:00p.m.
AFN sports	Men's College Basketball	ESPNNews	The Hot List	NFL Live	Jim Rome is Burning	NASCAR Now	
AFN prime ATLANTIC	House	C.S.I.	Headline News	Tonight Show with Jay Leno			
AFN news	Fox News Live	Studio B	The Situation Room	The Situation Room			